

ACTIVE NETWORKING IN COMMUNICATION SATELLITES

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A communications network comprises a plurality of nodes including at least one earth station and at least one spacecraft. The spacecraft node is an active node of the network. A method for dynamically configuring a spacecraft to function as a node of a communications network in accordance with the defacto active network reference and with an Open Systems Interconnect (OSI) reference model comprises the step of transmitting an object from an earth station to the spacecraft. The object comprises at least one method for configuring the spacecraft to include a node operating system (nodeOS) and at least one execution environment (EE).

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